

The Carlsbad Current

TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR.

CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1915.

NUMBER 2.

VILLA LOSES IN MEX.

AMERICAN RAILROAD MAN SLAIN BY BULLET FIRED FROM ACROSS RIO GRANDE.

El Paso and Southwestern Car Inspector on Duty in Yards Near River Bank Deliberately Murdered by Mexican Cavalrymen.

General Pershing Rushes United States Troops to Scene and Lodges Protest With Carranza Consul; Villa's Whoreabouts Still Unknown.

Jaurez stores were looted yesterday morning by armed Mexican soldiers, who also robbed American passengers on a street car, murdered a Japanese merchant in his store, and then capped their rioting by deliberately firing across the river and killing George A. Diepert, car inspector for the E. P. & S. W. railway, as he stood on a freight car near the El Paso Milling company's plant on the edge of the Rio Grande east of the Stanton street bridge. The looting took place shortly before noon, and Diepert was killed about 3 o'clock. As a result of Diepert's death, General Pershing, commander of the Eighth brigade, has lodged a strong protest with Carranza Consul Andres G. Garcia, with instructions that it be forwarded to the Jaurez commanders.

Wanton Murder of American.

According to General Pershing, who had the affair investigated, six Mexican cavalrymen of the Jaurez garrison rode down the river bank and opened fire when they saw Diepert and a companion, W. C. Bentley, on the freight cars across the river. Neither of the Americans were struck at the first volley. They started to climb down the car, but the Mexicans fired a second volley and Diepert was hit in the back. He died before physicians could reach him. Bentley escaped unhurt. Mexicans then hurried away from the vicinity. No arrests have been made yet in connection with the killing. Diepert was 32 years of age and came here last month from Raton, N. M. He resided on Myrtle avenue and is survived by a widow and a baby child. He was a member of the B. of L. E.

Troops Sent to River Bank.

Two companies of the Sixth infantry were rushed to the river and posted at the international bridges, while the Sixteenth Infantry and the remainder of the Sixth were ordered to be held in readiness for instant action. Captain Henry C. Bonnycastle and Lieutenant K. S. Gregory, with E and G companies of the Sixth, are on duty at the river. At 9 o'clock last night General Pershing, accompanied by Mayor Lea, made a trip of inspection along the river front. Police are also stationed at the bridges and four deputy sheriffs under Deputy James Newton have been assigned to watch the footbridges at the El Paso smelter.

Hundreds Participate in Looting.

Nearly 100 soldiers took part in the looting and rioting which began about 11 o'clock yesterday morning. Thirty of them entered George C. Morrow's "Aztec" curio store on the main street of Jaurez and, despite Morrow's protest, took \$50 in gold and \$200 in Mexican silver. Then they broke the cases containing cigars and cigarettes. A big safe in the store contained \$1,000 but the looters were unable to force it open.

Looter Shot by Officer.

While the robbery was in progress General Gregorio Ortiz passed along the sidewalk and commanded the soldiers to desist. Most of them did, but one hurled an insulting word at the officer, who drew his pistol and shot the offender. The bullet struck the soldier in the head. He was taken to the hospital and was still alive last night. This incident put an effective halt on the looting game.

Civilian Summary Executed.

Juan Martin, a civilian, who joined the looters at Morrow's store, was placed under arrest by General Ortiz' order to a passing squad of infantry. He was marched to the rear of the customs house, stood against a wall and executed without any preliminaries.

Little shops and restaurants owned by Japanese in the neighborhood of the city plaza suffered the most from the rioters. A dozen places were entered and robbed. In one of the stores, owned by Siori Murra, the soldiers became angered at his refusal to give them money. They unsling their

guns and shot him dead as he protested to them. "La Barrellita," a small saloon in the plaza district, was robbed of money and liquors. This liquor caused most of the trouble that followed, as the rioters drank until most of them were intoxicated.

Street Car Passengers Robbed.

The robbery of the street car passengers took place about 12 o'clock. The car, containing a number of American passengers, was standing at the customs house corner, when a Mexican appeared half a block away, pursued by half a dozen soldiers. This Mexican, according to witness, was Alfonso Garcia, former mayor of Jaurez. He was being pursued by the rioters, it is reported, because they supposed he could pay them back wages which were overdue. Garcia gained the waiting car, with the soldiers behind him. Several laid hands on him and took what money he possessed, while the others turned to the passengers.

Carmen Battle With Mob.

Motorman C. A. Griffith and Conductor W. E. Lunsford fought off the mob and prevented most of them from boarding the street car. Several passengers were forced at the point of pistols to give up their money. An attempt was made to get Conductor Lunsford's watch, but it failed. The car then made a quick run to El Paso. Foremaster W. E. Andrews of the Mexico Northwestern railway, reported to Lieutenant Martin Schallenberg, of the provost guard at the bridge that he was held up and robbed when he entered Morrow's store while it was being looted by the soldiers. A gold watch and some money were taken from him.

Car Service Resumed.

Street car service to Jaurez was stopped as soon as news of the robbery reached this side, but was resumed again at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon and continued until midnight.

While the rioting was at its height, Mrs. F. D. Edwards, wife of the American consul in Jaurez, telephoned to Andres G. Garcia, Mexican consul here and suggested that a payment of money to the rioters would quell the disturbance. She reported that she had heard three high officers had gone out and tried to reason with the mutineers but vainly, because the men were determined to get something for the money due them. Consul Edwards is in the east at present, and his wife took her husband's duties upon herself.

No Attempt to Steal Racehorses. Although no attempt was made to steal horses at the Jaurez track, the races were called off for the day. Accel from the track during the afternoon and evening, no sign of a movement against that place was in evidence. The races will be held today as usual.

Order Restored in Afternoon.

Fifty or sixty soldiers who took part in the general rioting were arrested during the afternoon and locked up in various barracks. How their cases will be disposed of is not known, but so far none have been executed. Several hundred picked men were detailed by the officers to police the town and prevent any recurrence of the looting and disorder. All other soldiers were dismissed and their rifles were locked up, the keys being retained by officers.

General Pershing gave orders last night to the officers at the bridges not to permit Americans to cross to Jaurez. Especial passes signed by the general were necessary to secure passage to the other side of the border. During the afternoon a large number of Jaurez citizens, alarmed by the disorders, came to El Paso, but by nightfall the panic had subsided and many had returned to their homes. Early last night the streets of the Mexican city were crowded with unarmed soldiers, officers and civilians.

NOTICE TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

In poultry contests we will furnish R. C. R. L. R. eggs for hatching at \$2.00 per 15 and guarantee 9 chicks. This fall we will give \$5.00 cash prize for cockerel winning first and \$5.00 for pullet winning first from our stock. The eggs will be from our first prize pen. We will help you. Your club show should be held about October 1.

HART & MULLANE.

Ralph Thayer and Oliver Shattuck are spending a few days in town coming Wednesday.



ALTHOUGH we live in Gungy-wamp.

Which isn't on the map. An', thou u our town hez settled down

To take its winter nap. Our thoughts go out to friends afar. Friends north, south, east an' west

We hope an' pray this Christmas day Will be their happiest

We live here quiet on the farm. Irene an' me an' me; We have two pens uv noisy hens

An' cats, no less'n three! We raise our garden sassa an' sich. Make cider ev'ry fall;

Wish we could git a cask uv it Out to you, one an' all

We ain't no hands for style an' sich. But we jest want say We'll use you white by day or night

El you should come our way. Accept this greetin', which is full Uv good ol' Gungy cheer

An' peace, good will an' joy until We see you all next year!

—Joe Cone.

ATROCITIES IN MEXICO.

Secretary Lansing Promises Monsignor Kelly That Measures Shall Be Taken to Put An End to Abuses.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Secretary Lansing, of the state department, today received a protest by Monsignor Francis Kelly, of Chicago, charging systematic persecution of the clergy in Mexico, authorized by government officials since the recognition by the United States of the Carranza government. Monsignor Kelly said the secretary had promised efforts toward improvement in the situation.

Monsignor Kelly who was accompanied to the department by the Rev. Thomas Shannon, of Chicago, charged

that a decree had been issued in the state of Yucatan requiring all priests to marry and to work eight hours a day in the public offices on pain of expulsion. In northern Mexico, he said, priests had been declared ineligible to own property, even their homes being confiscated.

"In Guadalajara," said Monsignor Kelly "the university has been closed since Carranza was recognized and the chapel partly destroyed. In Morelia, capital of Michoacan, they even went so far as to order that priests should not wear overcoats, but should wear on the streets as protection against the cold, a blanket, the garb of the peon."

Monsignor Kelly and Father Shannon were encouraged by the interest shown by Secretary Lansing. Eliseo Arredondo, recently appointed Mexican ambassador here, also had told them, they said, that he would do all he could to secure an amelioration of conditions.

Howard Keer and Major Bujac returned Monday from Wyoming where they are interested in valuable oil property. They encountered lovely weather for that country.

A DEPENDABLE STORE.

The Current reporter stepped into the Horne store the other day and was surprised to note the immense stock, in comparison with the small store carried a few years ago by the Merriam store which the Horne store succeeded and being of an inquisitive turn proceeded to investigate the cause of such a growth. It is not generally known, but the class of goods kept in a store is the secret of growth. Only the other day we overheard a person say: "I got these shoes at Horne's a year ago and did not ex-mo-nish, for, the last pair I got at another store for some less looked as good when I got them and they gave out in less than half the time". It is so with all the goods of the Horne store. They are dependable and people once making the discovery that the goods will wear have no compunction or fear that they will be called down by their friends when recommending the Horne store as a dependable place to trade. With the motto to give the best that money can buy at a reasonable profit Mr. Horne commenced three years ago and has built up such a permanent trade among the best people that his stock has doubled and then doubled again. The oldest customers are the ones who buy with the least persuasion and they are frequently surprised to find the immense and complete stock carried in dry goods as well as ready to wear in both ladies and gents suits, and all other classes of goods.

George Adams came in from the ranch the first of the week and is spending the holidays in Texas, going south Tuesday morning. No doubt to Fort Stockton.

Mrs. Tom Jones was in from the ranch Saturday doing her Christmas shopping. She said she left master Gordon home to run the ranch.

Mrs. Mary James is very ill with la grippe taking a severe cold last week that has resulted in her present condition. Mrs. E. Hendricks has also been confined to her bed with a rising Dr. P. J. Smith, veterinary surgeon and dentist. Inquire at Corner Drug Store.

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A GOOD TEACHER



A Wish For the Holiday Season

THINE own wish wish I thee in every place. The Christmas joy, the song, the feast, the cheer;

Thine be the light of love in every face. That looks on thee to bless thy coming year

My own wish wish I thee—what dost thou crave? All thy dear hopes be thine, whatever they be

A wish fulfilled may make thee king or slave. I wish thee wisdom's eyes wherewith to see. Behold, she stands and waits, the youth

ful year! A breeze of morning breathes about her brow. She holds the storm and sunshine, bliss and fear.

Blossoms and fruit upon the bending boughs. She brings thee gifts. What blessing wilt thou choose? Life's crown of good in earth or heaven above?

The one immortal joy thou canst not lose to love? Leave all the rest and choose that love.

—GEO. THAYER

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Christmas at Christ's Birthplace

At last I am come to the market place, at one end of which stands the Church of the Nativity, marking the holy, lowly birthplace, says a writer in Army and Navy Life. There is only one entrance from the street, and it is so low that in entering one is forced to bow the head and assume a posture of reverence. When one inside I raise my eyes I feel the hushes wet.

The ceiling is lofty, the walls white-washed and bare, while the ancient dark beams and rafters add to the air of extreme simplicity. There are long rows of marble pillars, once adorned with paintings that are all but faded now, and of the once glittering mosaics of the clerestory only fragments remain. Coming into the choir and apse, the scene is suddenly changed. There are numerous altars of diverse ownership under a constant and jealous guardianship of Latin, Greek and Armenian. Over these various claims there has been much and bitter dissension; blood has been spilled more than once. In fact, as all the world knows, the Crimean war began with a mob riot in the Church of the Nativity—sacrilege of sacrilege!—and here was born the Prince of Peace!

Down the dark and winding stairs, slippery with the drippings of count-



BEND LOW AND KISS THE GROUND FOR CHRIST'S SAKES.

less candles, I make my way to that lovely place into which first came the light of the world. The groto of the Nativity is a cavern beneath the church, long, narrow and low celled, with pointed, unadorned, peccious metal and rare workmanship lighting the gloom. The floor is marble, and wonderful tapestries, pictures and silk hangings cover the walls. A marble table in one corner commemorates the manger, and in a recess on one side a lotus of more glowing lamps are ranged around a holy shrine.

Before the altar there all men bend low and kiss the ground for Christ's sake, for it is here a silver star is set to mark the birthplace of him whom his mother called Jesus. The center of the star is black, and through it one may see the original rock of the stable. To the north of the groto underneath the floor one may also see the cave in which St. Joseph spent many peaceful years transmuting the Bible into Latin.

The effect of the whole is impressive, but in an unimpaired way. I am conscious of a feeling that is almost resentment against the lamps and tapestries and the marble floor. They seem to veil to the cheapness of worldly riches a spot that of all places on earth should have been allowed to remain tranquilly humble and dimly sacred, true to the character of its holy, transcendent mystery.

I close my eyes for a moment, while I kneel and heartily adore the presence, until it vanishes and the atmosphere of the past in all its deep and wonderful mystery, returns to envelop my soul. "I am here, in Bethlehem," I whisper to myself, and beyond closed lids I see the Virgin mother with her simple face as the real mystery loved to appear, her eyes a light that never was so that of God, in her beautiful, sweet eyes, while the glory from one low-begging star shines a light's hair. The faintest scent of new hay is in the air. I hear the soft tread of the ox and the donkey and the murmur of the shepherds the voice of the Magi is heard. "O, we have seen a star in the east and are come to worship him."

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